

ISAHP MEETING IN LONDON, AUGUST 4 – AUGUST 7, 2016

Valentina Ferretti
London School of Economics and Political Science
Department of Management
United Kingdom

This summer sunny London hosted an inspiring and interdisciplinary International Symposium on the Analytic Hierarchy Process/Analytic Network Process (ISAHP 2016) (<http://www.isahp.org/>). This very successful meeting was organized by Thomas L. Saaty (University of Pittsburgh, Honorary Founding Chairman), Leandro Pecchia (University of Warwick, Conference Chairman), Andrea Genovese (University of Sheffield, Program Co-Chair), Marjan Hummel (University of Twente, Program Co-Chair), Antonella Petrillo (University of Naples "Parthenope", Program Co-Chair) with the help of the executive committee formed by Enrique Mu (Carlow University - University of Pittsburgh, President of the ISAHP Executive Council, and Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of The Analytic Hierarchy Process), Rozann Saaty (Vice President Creative Decisions Foundation), Elena Rokou (Chief Research Officer, Creative Decisions Foundation) and Milagros Pereyra (President, Maestro Meetings, Executive Director, Latin American Studies Association - LASA). The meeting saw strong and enthusiastic international participation with 136 paper proposals from 46 countries.

To kick off the meeting and warm up the atmosphere with helpful scientific findings, the first day of the event started with a series of workshops dealing with “User-need elicitation via AHP: study design and piloting”, “ANP sensitivity”, “Overview of the new Super Decisions software (V3.0) for the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) and Analytic Network Process” and, finally, “Simplifying AHP to make it accessible to youth”. To maintain the inspirational character of the conference, the second day started with a video message recorded by Tom Saaty, who unfortunately could not attend the meeting but still wanted to be present and share some recent lessons learnt for the future of AHP and ANP. The conference then hosted amazing keynote speakers: Adriana Velazquez Berumen from the Essential Medicines and Health Products Department in the World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, James G. Dolan M.D. from the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA, Edgardo Iozia from the European Economic and Social Committee, Belgium, Brussels, and Prasanta Kumar Dey from Aston University, Birmingham, UK.

For the first time, younger conference attendees at the meeting were given the opportunity to exchange ideas and get feedback from top authors in the AHP/ANP field and have one-on-one time with them in our newly introduced mentoring sessions. These sessions allowed attendees to book time and discuss specific topics with highly acclaimed experts and members of the community. In addition, Bill Adams organized a session for children who demonstrated they could explore interesting questions and decisions using a simplified version of AHP. These initiatives were received with warm enthusiasm and strong participation!

Finally, the six pillars and highlights of ISAHP 2016 i were strongly interdisciplinary, ranging from “Multi-criteria Decision Analysis Methodology and Theory”, to “Government Policy and Decision Making”, to “Healthcare Decision Making”, to

“Applications in Civil Engineering and Urban Management”, to “Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering” and, finally, to “Business and innovation system”.

We would also like to express our warm congratulations to the winners of the different prizes awarded at the conference. The ISAHP 2016 has been a truly international event which brought together researchers, teachers, students and users of AHP/ANP to share their research and experiences in decision-making. Many very interesting publication opportunities are associated with the event. If you are interested in knowing more about this please check the website for up to date highlights (<http://www.isahp.org/callforpapers/?Publication-Opportunities-7>).

Looking forward to seeing you all at ISAHP 2018! Where do you guess it will be?



Participants celebrating together a great ISAHP 2016 meeting in London!